

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A general-purpose computer having a central processing unit configured to decode data stored in an internal storage mechanism as instructed by a program stored in said internal storage mechanism, comprising:

a loading mechanism, which is integrally arranged on a case of said general-purpose computer, for detachably accommodating an external storage card;

a decoding mechanism configured to decode data read from said external storage card;

a reproduction mechanism configured to reproduce decoded data decoded by said decoding mechanism;

a power controller configured to supply power to said general-purpose computer, wherein said power controller supplies power to said decoding mechanism and said reproduction mechanism even if power of said central processing unit is turned off, and said loading mechanism is configured to read said decoded data based on commands from said central processing unit when said general-purpose computer is in an active state and said loading mechanism is configured to read said decoded data based on commands from an external storage card control mechanism integrally arranged on said case of said general-purpose computer, without control of a central processing unit, when said general-purpose computer is in an inactive state;

a cross-authentication mechanism configured to cross-authenticate said external storage card through said loading mechanism; and

a control mechanism configured to supply copyrighted data read from said external storage card to said reproducing mechanism upon successful cross-authentication by said cross-authentication mechanism even if power of said central processing unit is turned off,

wherein said power controller supplies power to said cross-authentication mechanism and said control mechanism even if power of said central processing unit is turned off and when said external storage card has been cross-authenticated with said general-purpose computer, said external storage card control mechanism transfers copyrighted music data to said external storage card even if power of said central processing unit is turned off.

Claims 13 and 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein in said inactive state in which no electric power is supplied to said central processing unit, said external storage card control mechanism reads copyrighted data from said external storage card and supplies said copyrighted data to a portable music playing device.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 15, further comprising:

a display configured to display an operation of at least one of said external storage card control mechanism and said portable music playing device when said general purpose computer is in an inactive state in which no electric power is supplied to said central processing unit.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein a functional equivalent to a portable music playing device is realized by executing, by a controller of said general-purpose computer, a program stored in said internal storage mechanism of said general-purpose computer when power of said central processing unit is turned off.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein said internal storage mechanism is a hard drive.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein said copyrighted data is encrypted copyrighted data.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein when said external storage card control mechanism is operated and said central processing unit is in said inactive state, a predetermined software program is executed.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein said external storage card control mechanism has programmable power key functionality.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein said loading mechanism is located on a side of a case enclosing a monitor for said general-purpose computer.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein said power controller supplies power to said decoding mechanism and reproduction mechanism independently via a USB cable, when said central processing unit is off.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 12, wherein a display is located on a top side of a case enclosing a monitor for said general-purpose computer, said display being visible even when said top side of said case is closed.

Claim 25 (New): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 19, wherein said encrypted data is encrypted by a Data Encryption Standard encryption/decryption unit included in said external storage card.

Claim 26 (New): The general-purpose computer according to Claim 25, wherein said Data Encryption Standard encryption/decryption unit has a random number generator configured to cross-authenticate said external storage card and share a session key with said external storage card.